

KD\_IM-665943\_1

**REMARKS**

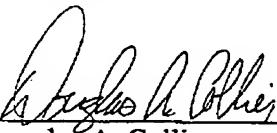
The Election/Restriction Requirement asserts there are two inventions. In response to the Election/Restriction Requirement, the Applicants hereby elect Invention I, claims 1-50, drawn to orthopedic implants, without traverse.

The Restriction Requirement refers to a species election, and states that species are as follows:

- Species A: Pyramidal shaped plate (Figure 1)
- Species B: Diamond shaped plate with reinforcing members (Figure 4)
- Species C: Oval shaped device with fluid bladder (Figures 5 & 6)
- Species D: Spinal distraction element (Figures 11 & 12)
- Species E: Semicircle device (Figures 13-16 & 23-24)
- Species F: Circular-ovular device (Figures 17-22 & 25-26)
- Species G: Multi-diamond/multi-circular device (Figures 27-28)

Applicants elect species A of Figure 1 without traverse. With respect to the elected claims 1-50 of Invention I, it appears that claims 1-5, 8-9, 13-15, 18-21, 27-29, 31-32, 34-38 and 45-48 are readable at least on the elected species. Accordingly, examination of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing election is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Response to Restriction Requirement

Serial. No. 10/768,797

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